



Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County Awards \$955,500 in Recovery Grant Funding for Conservation of Camp Tuckahoe Land

Carlisle, PA – The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners yesterday approved by a vote of 2-1 to award \$955,500 of Recovery Grant Funding as part of the infrastructure category to the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy to acquire and permanently protect 916 acres on South Mountain. The land is currently owned by the Boy Scouts of America New Birth of Freedom Council also known as Camp Tuckahoe.

The cost estimate based on a fair market real estate appraisal completed on May 24, 2022 for the Camp Tuckahoe acquisition is \$2.29 million. The land includes 546 acres in Cumberland County, for an appraised value of \$1.3 million. Seventy percent of the appraised value, \$955,500, was awarded by the commissioners.

Acquisition of the Camp Tuckahoe divestment ensures the protection of ecological services, including watershed protection, climate-resilience, forest protection, and increasing the acreage of existing core conservation areas, including the Diakon Wilderness Center, State Game Lands #305, and one mile of shared border with National Park Service's "White Rocks" area.

This project moves the land from private ownership to public ownership. The environmental, economic, social, and recreation benefits will be available for all residents in the greater region to enjoy forever. The 916 acres, 546 in Cumberland, make important connections to other permanently preserved land owned by the Game Commission and Appalachian Trail.

As one of few legacy projects in the recovery grant application pool, this project protects the land from ever being developed. The land is in Cumberland and York counties, with public access and many of the recreational amenities residing on the Cumberland County side. Preservation of the land also carries important regional water supply and air quality benefits for the Cumberland Valley.

In total the county has granted \$23,620,118 in Cumberland County Recovery Grants and has allocated \$25 million for county revenue replacement. The remaining \$2,217,034 will be allocated at a later date.

Nov. 22, 2022: The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners voted 2-1 to approve \$5,406,757 in Cumberland County Recovery Grants for Business/Non-Profit/COVID-19 Recovery.

Nov. 9, 2022: The Board of Commissioners voted 2-1 to approve \$1.2 million in Cumberland County Recovery Grants for Business/Non-profit and COVID-19 recovery, and \$25 million for county revenue replacement.

Oct. 26, 2022: Cumberland County Commissioners voted 2-1 to approve \$6,434,235 million in Cumberland County Recovery Grants for infrastructure projects in the county. Twenty-one municipalities were awarded funding for improvement projects.

Oct. 12, 2022: Cumberland County Commissioners unanimously voted to approve \$7,112,908 million in Cumberland County Recovery Grants for mental health and physical health organizations across the county. Seventeen organizations were awarded funding to improve the physical and mental health of residents directly & indirectly impacted by COVID-19.

Sept. 29, 2021: Cumberland County Commissioners unanimously voted to award three Cumberland County higher education institutions \$2.5 million through the Cumberland County Recovery Grant Program.

Provisions of the grant funds:

The grantee must meet the agreed upon milestones, which includes regular project status updates to the county. Reimbursements will be granted as projects progress.

Three primary goals were established for the funding:

- Improve the physical and mental health of county residents directly & indirectly impacted by COVID-19.
- Revitalize Cumberland County communities negatively impacted by COVID-19.
- Restore and deliver government services impeded, delayed, or cancelled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To accomplish the goals, three grant categories were established:

- [Mental and Physical Health](#)
- [Infrastructure](#)
- [Business/Non-Profit/COVID-19 Recovery](#)

For the complete listing of Cumberland County Recovery Grants awarded, visit www.cumberlandcountypa.gov/5037.

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